

## **MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS FINAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

**GRANT TITLE:** Fluvial Arctic Grayling Restoration  
**AGREEMENT:** T - 15 - 2  
**PERIOD COVERED:** July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006

### **Objectives**

The objective of this Grant is to restore fluvial Arctic grayling in the upper Missouri River basin in Montana.

### **Location**

Work will occur in the upper Missouri River basin and selected major tributaries (Big Hole, Beaverhead, Ruby, Sun, and Missouri Headwaters) and Missouri Rivers in southwestern Montana.

### **Accomplishments**

Accomplishments during the grant period include:

- Completed development of a Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances Program (CCAA) in the Upper Big Hole River drainage and began implementation of the CCAA. This includes quite a lot of outreach with landowners - 40 non-federal landowners controlling approximately 250,000 of the 380,000 non-federal acres in the designated CCAA area tentatively signed up to participate under the umbrella CCAA. Final sign-ups were pending approval of the CCAA by the USFWS, which occurred in May, 2006, so official sign-ups are currently underway. Also being done under the auspices of the CCAA are promotion and coordination of habitat improvement projects that include riparian enhancement, improving fish passage, minimizing entrainment, and improving stream flow dynamics among Big Hole basin landowners, and serving as a technical advisor for the Big Hole Watershed Committee.
- Monitored water temperatures and discharge in the Big Hole River and its tributaries.
- Monitored abundance and distribution of grayling and potential fish competitors in the Upper Big Hole basin.
- Managed grayling broodstock populations at Axolotl Lake and Green Hollow II Reservoir, collected gametes, and supplemented additional year classes as needed.
- Continued to stock hatchery-reared grayling or use Remote Site Incubators (RSIs) and monitor survival and abundance of these efforts on the Upper Ruby, the North Fork of the Sun, and Missouri River Headwaters restoration sites.

- Details of these accomplishments are included in the attached report, and are also on FWP's website, along with recovery team notes, the CCAA, and other supporting documents at <http://fwp.mt.gov/wildthings/concern/grayling.html>.

**Variances:** None

**Expenditure Recap:**

Proposed:

	Federal Share		Match		Total
Direct Costs	35,000.00		35,000.00		70,000.00
Indirect @ 17.9%	6,265.00		6,265.00		12,530.00
Total	41,265.00	50.0%	41,265.00	50.0%	82,530.00

Actual:

	Federal Share		Match		Total
Direct Costs	34,949.61		41,265.00		76,214.61
Indirect	6,315.39				6,315.39
Total	41,265.00	50.0%	41,265.00	50.0%	82,530.00

The non-federal share of funding will be in the form of non-federal dollars from Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks' Project 3321 and 33011 for fluvial arctic grayling recovery, which were used to cover costs of biologists, technicians, and operations in support of this project.

**Project Personnel**

Jim Magee	Fisheries Biologist	406-683-9310	<a href="mailto:mageejames@mt.gov">mageejames@mt.gov</a>
Adam Brooks	Federal Aid Program Mgr.	406-444-3032	<a href="mailto:abrooks@mt.gov">abrooks@mt.gov</a>
Bob Snyder	Hatchery Program Mgr.	406-444-1563	<a href="mailto:bsnyder@mt.gov">bsnyder@mt.gov</a>
Ken McDonald	Spec. Projects Bureau Chief	406-444-7409	<a href="mailto:kmcdonald@mt.gov">kmcdonald@mt.gov</a>